

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 11-15 are amended.

The indication in the Office Action that claims 2-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, that claims 11-15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and to overcome the 112 rejections, and that claim 16 is allowable, are noted with appreciation. However, for the reasons set forth below, it is asserted that all claims are in condition for allowance.

The Office Action rejects claims 11-15 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. It is submitted that the claims are now definite and the rejection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Murakami et al. this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The invention has a feature that a rotational state of an electric oil pump is controlled according to a change in a control status of a hydraulic circuit control portion which outputs a control signal to a hydraulic circuit portion. The hydraulic circuit portion supplies a hydraulic pressure from the electric oil pump to an actuator of a transaxle of a vehicle. According to the invention, when a hydraulic pressure is required for driving the actuator, the rotational speed of the oil pump can be increased in advance. As a result, pressure oil can be supplied to the actuator without delay in an entire process in which the operation state of the vehicle changes.

In contrast, Murakami discloses that a hydraulic control system including a first oil passage 42 in which a relatively higher line pressure is established and a second oil passage 52 in which a relatively lower line pressure is established. See col. 6, lines 35-39 and col. 7, lines 30-33 of Murakami. Murakami does not disclose that a rotational state of an oil pump 34 which establishes such oil pressure is controlled or changed based on a status of the hydraulic circuit control portion as required by claim 1. Murakami does not disclose and suggest the feature of the invention. Therefore, we believe that the Examiner's objection should be overcome by arguing the above difference between the invention and Murakami.

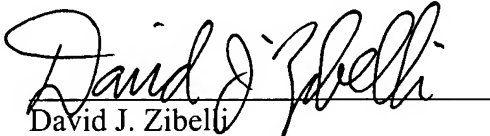
PATENT
Serial No: 10/653,212
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The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4232 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

Applicants do not believe that any additional fees are required in connection with this submission. Nonetheless, Applicants authorize payment of any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or credit of any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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David J. Zibelli
Registration No. 36,394

KENYON & KENYON
1500 K Street, N.W. - Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005
Tel: (202) 220-4200
Fax: (202) 220-4201

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